

MYSTEROUS ADVENTURES



LET ME GO!
I CAN'T MARRY
JOHN... HE'S
DEAD!

OF COURSE YOU CAN
MARRY ME, BESSIE! WE'LL
RETURN TO MY TOMB
FOR OUR HONEYMOON!

BRIDE
OF THE
DEAD!

GRAB YOUR PITH HELMETS, KIDDIES, WE'RE OFF ON A JUNGLE JOURNEY TO TERROR! IT'S A NO-MAN'S LAND OF HORROR AND FEAR THAT WILL KEEP YOUR TEETH ON EDGE! IT'S A DEADLY SAGA WE CALL

BUGABOO!

OUR STORY OPENS IN WASHINGTON, D. C. IN AN OFFICE OF THE PENTAGON. THE MEN GATHERED AROUND THE CONFERENCE TABLE ARE BRASS & BIG BRASS.





ALL THE MEN KNOW IS THAT THEY'LL BE GONE FOR TWO YEARS AND THAT THE WORD "ATOM" HAS BEEN WHISPERED... THEIR PLANE LANDS TWO HOURS LATER...



THAT NIGHT THE MEN SET UP THEIR FIRST CAMP...



FLIES? OH, SWELL, AN I HATE 'EM! USED TO PULL 'EM APART WHEN I WAS A KID! NASTY PESTS!



ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING THE SMALL GROUP MAKES ITS WAY INTO THE JUNGLE...



WITHIN TWO DAYS THEY ENTER THE UNEXPLORED JUNGLE REGIONS...

YOUR PRECIOUS FLIES ARE MAKING MINCEMEAT OUT OF ME, PROF!

TRY TO IGNORE THEM, BURNS. THESE ARE HARMLESS INSECTS! COLONEL, HAVE YOU NOTICED ANYTHING DIFFERENT IN THE PAST FEW HOURS?

I THOUGHT IT WAS MY IMAGINATION... BUT THE TREES AND PLANTS LOOK BIGGER!

IT'S NOT YOUR IMAGINATION... THEY ARE BIGGER!

DAY BY DAY THE TREES AND PLANTS GROW TALLER... AND HUMAN TEMPERERS GROW SHORTER...

LEEDS, IF YOU DON'T STOP WHISTLING I'M GONNA KICK YOUR TEETH IN!

LISTEN, LIEUT., BECAUSE YOU'RE AN OFFICER DON'T ACT...

CUT IT OUT! WE'VE GOT ENOUGH PROBLEMS WITHOUT A FIGHT!

BUT AS THE DAYS PASS INTO WEEKS AND THE WEEKS INTO MONTHS, LIEUT. RICHY BURNS FINDS HE CAN'T COPE WITH THE JUNGLE AND THE HEAT...

I'VE HAD ALL I CAN TAKE, COLONEL! I QUIT! I WANNA GO BACK!

NOW CALM DOWN, LIEUT! YOU OFFERED THE ARMY YOUR SERVICES FOR PATRIOTIC REASONS. YOU DON'T MEAN...

THAT'S A JOKE! PATRIOTISM, NUTS! THIS JOB PAID TRIPLE PAY... THAT'S WHY I TOOK IT! BUT I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE MONEY! I'M SICK OF THE INSECTS AND THE HEAT AND...

THAT'S ENOUGH, BURNS! IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE—GO AHEAD! BUT YOU GO ALONE! THE PROJECT CONTINUES!

BURNS KNOWS THAT HE'S TRAPPED. HE WOULDN'T DARE TO ATTEMPT THE HAZARDOUS TRIP ALONE... THAT NIGHT HE GETS DRUNK...

YOU'RE JUST A STUPID (HIC) SLOB, TALBOY! ALWAYS PASHTING THOSE DUMB FLIES!

TAKE IT EASY, RICHY. YOU'RE A LITTLE UPSET!

UPSET, (HIC) AM I? I'LL SHOW YOU! THIS ISH WHAT I THINK OF YOUR FLIES!

NOW WAIT A MINUTE, YOU DRUNKEN FOOL... YOU CAN'T...

PROFESSOR HAROLD TALBOT ATTEMPTS TO PROTECT HIS SPECIMENS BUT HE'S NO MATCH FOR THE DRUNKEN LIEUTENANT



SHE LOVESH
ME, SHE LOVESH
ME NOT...



IT IS COLONEL LADD WHO FINALLY TAKES CONTROL OF THE SITUATION...



PROJECT
ZKY
CONTINUES...
BUT
NOW
RICHY
BURNS
HAS A
NEW
AMUSEMENT:
HE
CONSTANTLY
TORTURES
AND KILLS
INSECTS
JUST TO
INFURIATE
TALBOT.



AS THE SMALL PARTY DOES FURTHER INWARD, ALL OF NATURE GROWS LARGER AND TOUGHER...



IT'S THREE DAYS LATER WHEN THE COLONEL GIVES THE ORDER TO MAKE A CLEARING FOR THE FINAL CAMP...

I'LL CONTACT H.Q. AND HAVE A HELICOPTER DROP OFF OUR SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT!

HOME
SWEET
HOME!



BY NIGHTFALL OF THE NEXT EVENING "HOME" IS COMPLETED...

EVERYTHING'S SO BIG OUT HERE, I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL LIKE A DWARF!

KEEP A SHARP WATCH FOR ANIMALS... THEY'LL BE TWICE AS DEADLY!



THE MEN RETIRE EARLY BUT RICHY BURNS IS AWAKENED FROM A SOUND SLEEP A SHORT TIME LATER...

WH... OH, NO... NO!
HELLLLLPPPPP!



THE LIEUTENANT IS PARALYZED WITH FEAR AND IT IS HAROLD TALBOT WHO SAVES HIS LIFE...

FOR GOD'S SAKE, BURNS, HOLD STILL! I DON'T WANT TO BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF TOO!

HURRY UP, IT'S COMING FOR ME!



TALBOT'S AIM IS TRUE... AND DEADLY!



THIS
LAST
TERROR
OF THE
SNAKE
IS TOO
MUCH
FOR
BURNS...
HE IS
A MAN
GONE
BERSEK

IT'S ALL OVER, BURNS! COME BACK, IT'S OKAY...

GET AWAY FROM ME! I AIN'T STAYING HERE! I'M GETTING OUT WHILE I'M STILL ALIVE!



DON'T BE A FOOL, BURNS, YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE OUT THERE...

I'M TELLING YOU FOR THE LAST TIME... KEEP AWAY FROM ME! KEEP AWAY!



COLONEL LADD AND PRIVATE LEEDS WATCH, THEIR MOUTHS OPEN WITH HORROR AS THE CRAZED BURNS LIFTS HIS RIFLE AND LEVELS IT AT TALBOT...

WHILE LEEDS AND LADD RUSH TO THE INJURED MAN, BURNS ESCAPES INTO THE JUNGLE...

RIGHT BURNS RUNS BLINDLY, HIS MIND INTENT UPON... ESCAPE! THEN LATER...



BURNS, FOR GOD'S SAKE, DON'T...

DUMB STUPID FLY-HEAD! I WARNED HIM!



H-MY (GASP) CHEST... BURNING...

LEEDS, HELP ME GET HIM INTO THE TENT!



GOTTA FIND MY WAY BACK...

HE RUNS ALL THAT NIGHT... AND THE NEXT DAY...

HE CONTINUES HIS WILD TREK FOR FIVE DAYS... NOT REALIZING HE'S GOING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION... INSTEAD OF GOING OUT OF THE JUNGLE, HE'S GOING FURTHER INWARD...

BUT AS BURNS STARTS TO SHOVE ON...

AND THE HARDER HE TRIES TO FREE HIMSELF, THE MORE HE GETS STUCK IN THE GOOEY SUBSTANCE...



TIRED... SO TIRED... GOT TO HAVE SOME SLEEP.



DON'T DARE STOP LONG... GOTTA KEEP GOIN'!



WHAT THE HECK? THIS STUFF IS STICKY! CAN'T GET LOOSE!



C-CAN'T MOVE MY HANDS AND FEET! WHAT THE DEVIL IS THIS STUFF?

ONLY WHEN BURNS LOOKS UP-WARD DOES HE SEE THE MOST PUZZLING THING OF ALL... THE "TREE" IS NOT A TREE

T-THIS THING IS JUST HANGING DOWN... IT'S TIED TO THAT BRANCH/WHAT IN GOD'S NAME IS IT?



BURNS CONTINUES HIS STRUGGLES TO FREE HIMSELF FROM THE "THING" IN VAIN... HE BECOMES WEAKER, MORE TERROR-STRICKEN...

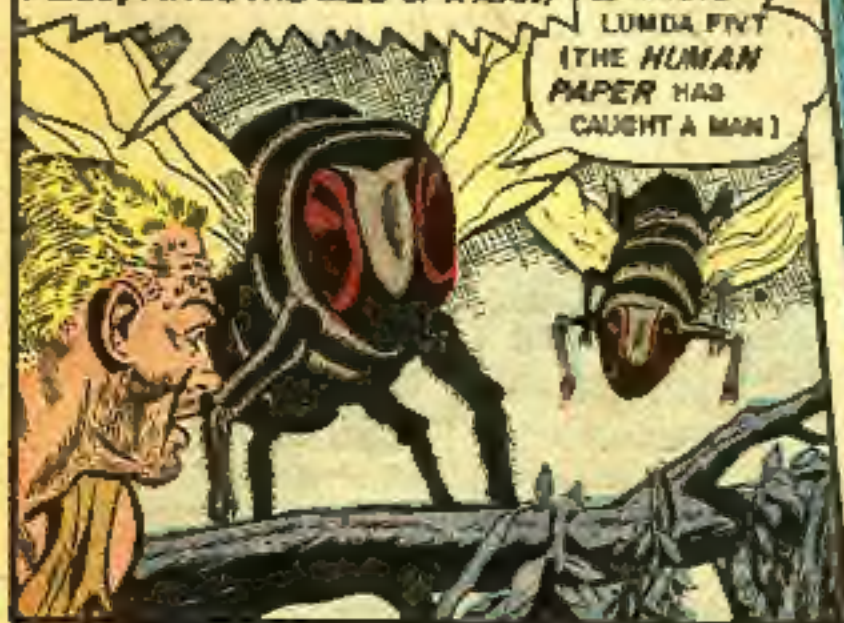


I-IF I CAN'T GET LOOSE... I'M GONNA DIE/ DIE LIKE... WH-WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

THE NOISE GETS LOUDER AND LOUDER UNTIL...

OH, NO... I-I'M GOING CRAZY... FLIES, TWICE THE SIZE OF A MAN!

HYPTA JIBTE LUMDA FRYT (THE HUMAN PAPER HAS CAUGHT A MAN)



THEIR WIREY LEGS ENCLOSE ON THE VICTIM...

OPOTA SWYDA NDCEE (LET'S GET HIM)



LOPJUA FOUNS HUP LSNFT JI (SHE LOVES ME, SHE LOVES ME NOT!)

DEE DEE DUM... POOR HUMANFLY/ DEE DUM DEE DUM!



AND BACK IN CAMP OF PROJECT XXV, PROF. TALBOT IS DYING...

T-TELL ME, COLONEL... WHAT WAS IT... OUR MISSION? WE WERE GOING TO TEST A NEW ATOMIC INSECT-ICIDE/ THE MOST POWERFUL EVER KNOWN TO MAN! IF SUCCESSFUL, WE COULD HAVE KILLED EVERY PEST ON THIS CONTINENT!



The End

HERE'S ANOTHER *SLIMY SAGA* CALCULATED TO KEEP YOUR STOMACHS CHURNING, FELLOW GHOULS. IT'S A *REPULSIVE* TALE COMPOSED OF *HORROR* AND *FEAR*, WITH TWO *VAMPIRES* THROWN IN JUST FOR *FUN*! WE CALL IT

ONE MAN'S POISON

S-STAY AWAY FROM ME! FOR GOD'S SAKE, LEAVE ME ALONE!

THERE AIN'T NO SENSE RUNNING, GIRLIE! YOU CAN'T GET AWAY!

WE WON'T HURT YOU MUCH, HONEY!

COME WITH US TO A LONELY CABIN LOCATED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A SMALL NEW ENGLAND TOWN

HOW'S DINNER COMIN', NA? I'M HUNGRY!

IT WON'T BE LONG, DEAR! I'M GETTING EVERYTHING WELL DONE...JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT!

THE OCCUPANTS OF THE CABIN ARE NA AND PA NORRIS, RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS. THE NORRISSES ARE WELL-LIKED AND WELL-LOVED BY ALL WHO KNOW THEM

'AFTERNOON, FOLKS! SHORE *HOT*, AIN'T IT, PA?

THAT IT IS, LEM! SIT DOWN FER A MINUTE AND HAVE SOME *LEMONADE*!

LEM DREW, THE LOCAL ICEMAN, LEAVES THE NORRIS HOUSEHOLD A SHORT TIME LATER.

YOU FOLKS ARE SHORE SWELL. I NEVER MIND DRIVING WAY OUT HERE 'CAUSE I ALWAYS KNOW I'LL GET A FINE RECEPTION!

THAT'S 'CAUSE WE LIKE YOU, LEM! WE LIKE EVERYBODY IN RIVERDALE!



FOLLOWING THE ICEMAN'S DEPARTURE THE NORRISSES STARTED THEIR EVENING MEAL.

GOOD DINNER TONIGHT, PA! EVERYTHING YOU LIKE... BLOOD-JUICE COCKTAIL, BROILED CLOTS, FRENCH-FRIED VEINS AND HOT BLOOD COFFEE!

FINE, MARTHA! SOUNDS DELICIOUS!



IN CASE YOU CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT, KIDDIES, MARTHA AND HENRY NORRIS ARE VAMPIRES...

THAT SALESMAN SURE HAS A FINE FLAVOR! THE YOUNG ONES ARE ALWAYS BEST!

YER RIGHT, PA! TOO BAD THIS IS THE LAST OF HIM! SOMEBODY ELSE BETTER SHOW UP SOON! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH FOOD IN RESERVE!



THE "KINDLY" OLD COUPLE LIVE OFF A MAIN HIGHWAY... A HIGHWAY OFTEN FREQUENTED BY TRAVELING SALESMEN... SUCH A MAN IS RALPH J. WEEKS.

...AND JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE MY LAST CUSTOMERS OF THE DAY I'LL OFFER THIS MAGIC CLEANER AT A SPECIAL REDUCED RATE!

WELL, I DUNNO, STRANGER. WHY DON'T YOU STEP INSIDE AND GIVE US A DEMONSTRATION?



THE NEW INGREDIENT WILL... H-HEY! WHAT IN GOD'S NAME...

GRAB HIM, PA!

YOU DON'T KNOW IT, MISTER, BUT YOU'RE THE NEW INGREDIENT!



THE SALESMAN GLADLY ACCEPTS PA NORRIS' OFFER AND MINUTES LATER INSIDE THE CABIN...

...AND NOT ONLY WILL IT REMOVE SPOTS BUT MIRACLE CLEANER IS GUARANTEED TO...

HE LOOKS JUST FINE DON'T HE, PA?

YUP, LOOKS MIGHTY TASTY, MA! MIGHTY TASTY!



POOR RALPH WEEKS DOESN'T HAVE A CHANCE. THE TWO VAMPIRES MAKE QUICK WORK OF HIM.

LEMME GO! NO... NO...

NOW, NOW, DON'T GET EXCITED... IT'LL ALL BE OVER IN JEST A SECOND!



OUR TWO "FRIENDS" ARE OLD HANDS AT THIS GAME AND WEEKS IS DEAD WITHIN MINUTES

LET'S HURRY AND GET HIM DISSECTED AND INTO THE FREEZER! WE DON'T WANT HIM TO



YES, THESE ARE MODERN VAMPIRES WITH ALL THE NEWEST CONVENIENCES THE REMAINS OF THE DEAD

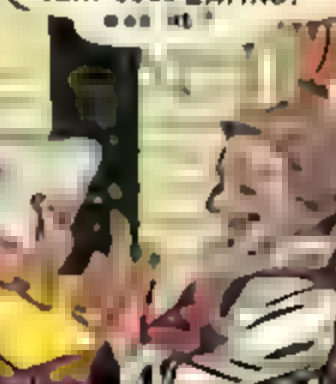
ARE QUICKLY PREPARED FOR



THIS FREEZER HAS BEEN A BIG HELP,



IT SHORE HAS! REMEMBER THAT FUNNY LITTLE FELLA WE GOT IT FROM? WASN'T VERY GOOD EATING,

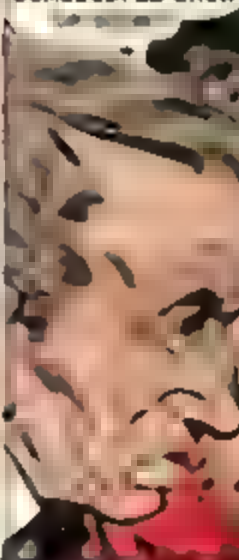


TRAVELING SALESMEN, TRUCK DRIVERS AND OTHER STRANGERS WHO ACCIDENTALLY FIND THEIR WAY TO THE ISOLATED CABIN PROVIDE THE VAMPIRE'S DIET...AND NO ONE IN TOWN IS THE WISER. IT'S A WEEK LATER AS WE REJOIN THE GRUE-SOME TWOSOME

NOBODY'S BEEN UP HERE IN TEN DAYS, PA! WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO? THAT WEEKS FELLA IS ALMOST



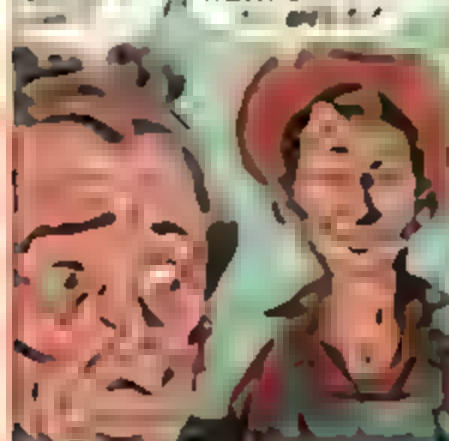
I KNOW, MARTHA, AND I'M GETTIN' HUNGRY! TRY NOT TO WORRY, BEAR, SOMEBODY'LL SHOW



PA, I HOPE SO! IT'S NEVER BEEN SO LONG BEFORE

TO EAT WORKS AGAINST THEM AND ANOTHER WEEK PASSES WITHOUT A "MEAL" APPEARING AT THE CABIN

PA, WE AIN'T HAD A MORSEL OKAY IF I BRING THE IN EIGHT ICE IN FAST...THE HEATS CAUSIN' IT



YESSIR, IT'S LIKE



YER, AIGHT, MARTHA! BUT IT'S HIM



TIMES FOOD IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN FRIENDS.



FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR LONG HISTORY OF MURDER, MARTHA AND HENRY NORRIS ATTACK A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY

AH, THAT WAS
RIGHT GOOD!

YES, BUT, PA,
I **WORRIED**. PEOPLE IN
TOWN ARE SONNA **MISS** LEM
SONNA WONDER WHAT
HAPPENED TO HIM!



AND SO WHEN LEM DIDN'T
COME HOME, GLADYS GOT
WORRIED AND CALLED ME!
SHE SAID **YOU** WERE LISTED
AS HIS **LAST DELIVERY**
OF THE DAY!

THAT'S RIGHT, HANK!
HE WAS HERE BOUT
FOUR-THIRTY I
DELIVERED THE ICE AND
THEN LEFT!



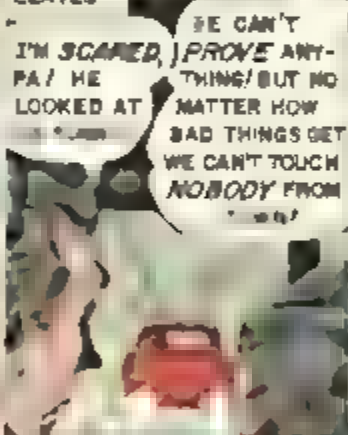
AIN'T **NOBODY**
SEEN HIM SINCE
HE LEFT **HERE**!

WELL, HE
MAY AN
ACCIDENT



BUT IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE
SHERIFF DOESN'T AGREE WITH
EITHER OF THESE THEORIES
HE TAKES ONE LAST LOOK
AROUND THE CABIN AND THEN
LEAVES

HE CAN'T
I'M **SCARED**, **PROVE** ANY-
PA! HE **LOOKED** AT **THING**! BUT NO
MATTER HOW
BAD THINGS GET
WE CAN'T TOUCH
NOBODY FROM



BUT DESPITE THEIR PLEDGE WHEN A
WEEK PASSES WITHOUT A NEW VICTIM
FINDING HIS WAY TO THE CABIN

'EVENIN', HENRY
AIN'T SEEN YOU
AND MARTHA IN

BEEN TO **BUSY**,
PAUL! WE'RE OUT
FOR SOME **FUN**



YOU MIGHT BE
AROUND BEFORE
LONG!

STARTLED
ME! DIDN'T SEE
YOU THERE!

YOU MEAN,
SHERIFF? YOU
THOUGHT
WE'D BE
AROUND?



THEY MIGHT WANT TO GO TO
THE **FUNERAL**!

OF COURSE, HANK!
THE **DEATH** ARE THE
PEOPLE! WE'D LIKE TO
PAY OUR **RESPECTS**!



THE CAREYS DON'T BELIEVE IN EMBALMING SO ACCORDING TO LAW, THE FUNERAL'S GOTTA BE WITHIN 48 HOURS. IT'LL BE AT 11 O'CLOCK TOMORROW AT ELEVEN!

WE'LL BE THERE!

INSTEAD OF CARRYING OUT THEIR ORIGINAL PLAN, MARTHA AND HENRY RETURN HOME AND DECIDE UPON A NEW ONE.

DON'T YOU SEE, IT'S PERFECT! AFTER THE FUNERAL WE'DIG UP THE BODY!

WE WON'T HAVE TO WALK ANYWHERE! YOU'LL BE IN GOOD SHAPE! NO EMBALMING!

BUT THE MORRISSES AREN'T THE ONLY ONES WITH A PLAN.

HANK YER CRAZY! I'VE KNOWN HENRY AND ARTHUR MORRIS FOR...

MEDDLE I AM CRAZY.. BUT IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS, 34 MEN HAVE DISAPPEARED IN THIS VICINITY! BOTH ME AND THE STATE POLICE TRACED 'EM AS FAR AS THE MORRIS PLACE AND NO FURTHER!

YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME, HANK! IT'S THE ONLY WAY!

B-BUT (BOB) OUR ONLY SON! I... I (SOS)

IF HANK NEEDS OUR HELP, WE GOTTA GIVE IT TO HIM, ARNES! IT'S OUR DUTY!

THE FUNERAL SERVICES FOR TOM CAREY ARE HELD AT WOODLAWN CEMETERY AT TEN O'CLOCK ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING.

ARNES! LOOK AT HIM, MARTHA! SO YOUNG AND TENDER!

STOP LOOKING GREEDY, HENRY! PEOPLE WILL NOTICE!

IT IS NOW DUSK OF THE SAME DAY. THE CEMETERY IS QUIET AND DESERTED.. OR RATHER, ALMOST DESERTED.

IT AIN'T QUITE DARK YET! PA I'M AFRAID!

I GAIN'T WAIT ANOTHER MINUTE, MARTHA! STOP SCREAMING AND HURRY UP!

WHEN WE GET FINISHED, WE'LL SHOVEL THE DIRT BACK. NOBODY'LL EVER KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

THE GRISLY TASK OF EXHUMING THE CORPSE IS COMPLETED WITHIN A FEW MINUTES...

HA/AT LAST...

WAIT FOR ME!



NINE DAYS OF HUNGER CAUSES OUR "FRIENDS" TO MAKE SHORT WORK OF THEIR "FEAST"

NOW, TO SET THIS DIRT BACK AND

OH, NO NO



YOU WUZ RIGHT, HANK! VAMPIRES! THEY'RE VAMPIRES!

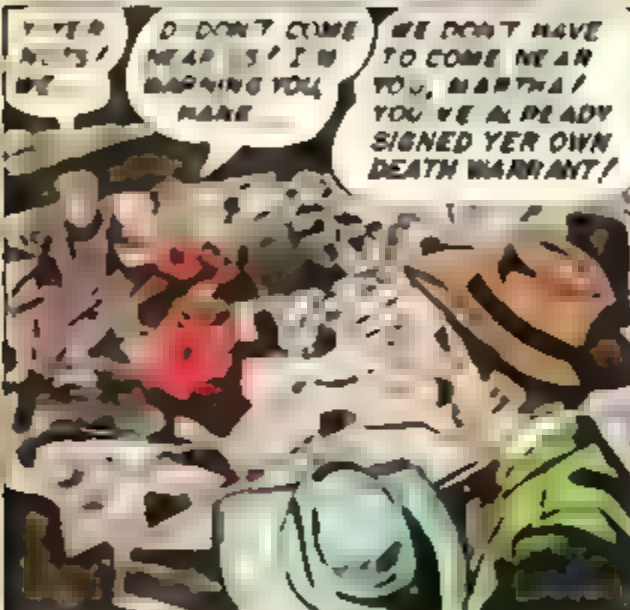
GET 'EM! KILL 'EM!



Y'VER A LITTLE WE

I DON'T COME NEAR 'S' I'M BURNING YOU MAKE

WE DON'T HAVE TO COME NEAR YOU, MARTHA! YOU'VE ALREADY SIGNED YER OWN DEATH WARRANT!



WHAT ARE YUH TALKING ABOUT? WHAT?

IF HERRY MY'S STOMACH ON FIRE



AS HERRY MY'S STOMACH ON FIRE HE TOO IS STRICKEN WITH THE SAME BURNING SEARING SENSATION IN HIS CHEST

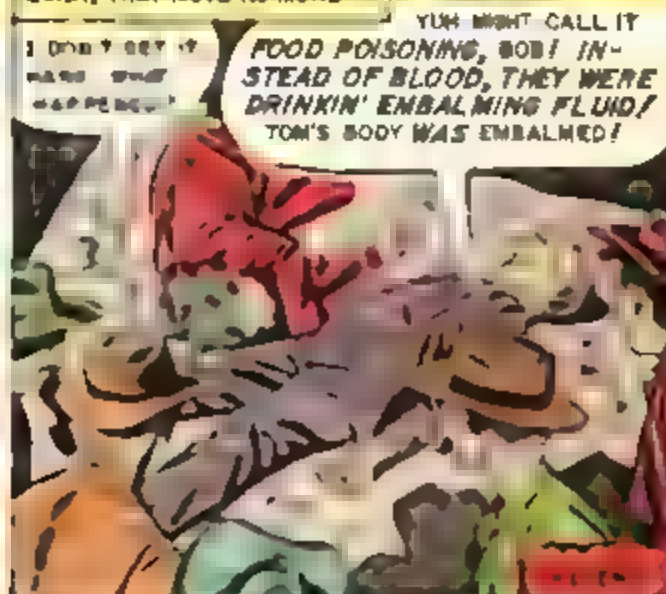
AGRRRRR / MARTHA, I



THEY ON THE AND TALK IN PAIN AN' THEN ALL IS QUIET, THEY MOVE NO MORE

I DON'T GET IT HOW THAT HAPPENED

YUH MIGHT CALL IT FOOD POISONING, BOB! INSTEAD OF BLOOD, THEY WERE DRINKIN' EMBALMING FLUID! TOM'S BODY WAS EMBALMED!



GRIP! FOR GRIPES! WELCOME TO THE OUTRIP OUT OF TERROR!

WE HAVE A JUICY MORSEL OF LOATHSOME HORROR FOR YOUR GRUESOME

APPETITES! IT'S A DELICIOUSLY REVOLTING TALE WE CALL — — —

PARALYZED



YOUR NAME IS FRED! YOU'RE A
DRAFTSMAN! YOU'RE A DRAFTSMAN! AND
DRAFTSMAN! YOU'RE A DRAFTSMAN!

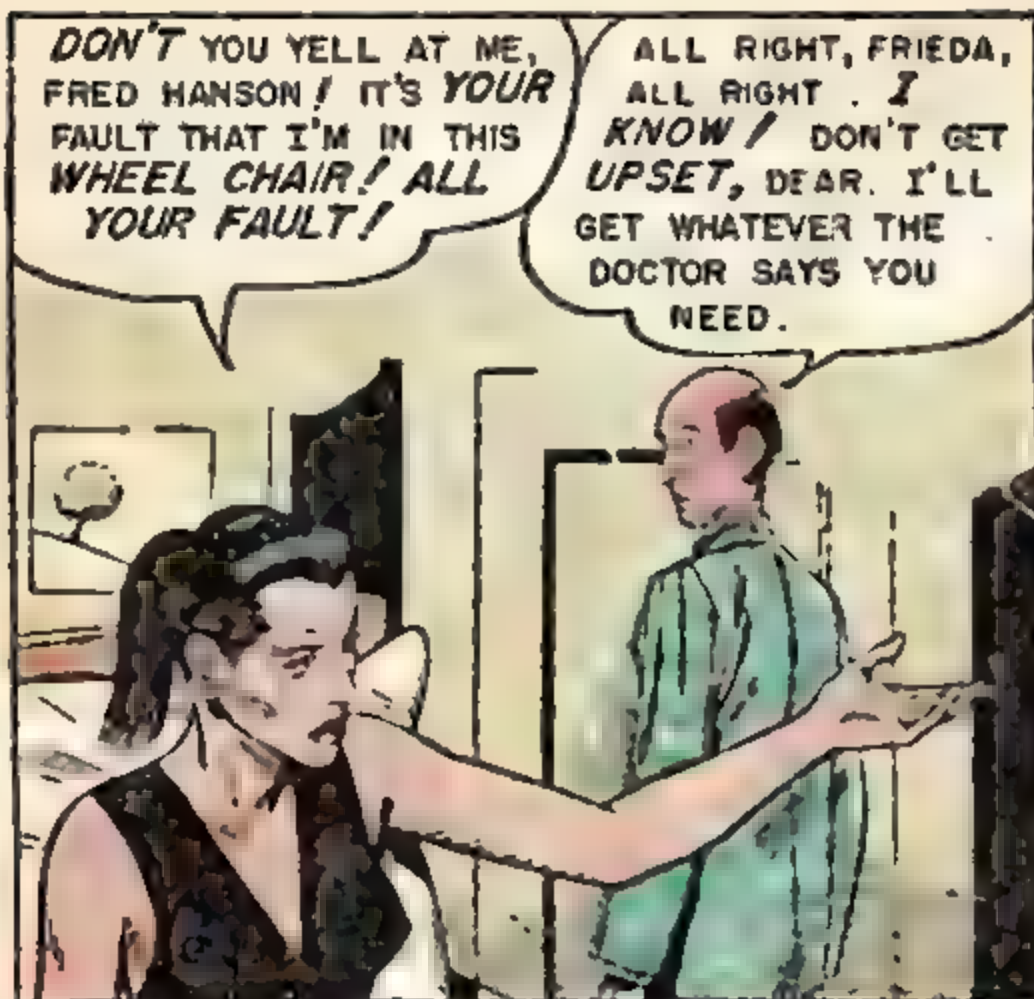
AND MY WHOLE
BODY ACHES TERRIBLY! YOU'VE
GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT
THAT DRAFT! (BLAH-BLAH)



THIS IS A TYPICAL MORNING IN YOUR LIFE,
ISN'T IT, FRED? FRIEDA, AS ALWAYS, IS
WHINING AND COMPLAINING

AND TO YOU TO
SAY I DON'T WANT
ANY MORE OF
THAT DRAFT!
(BLAH-BLAH)

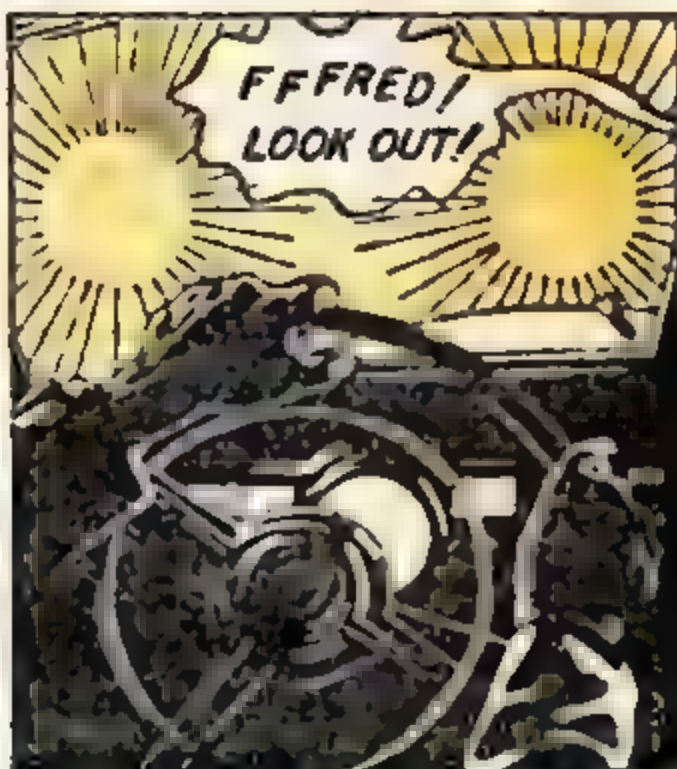
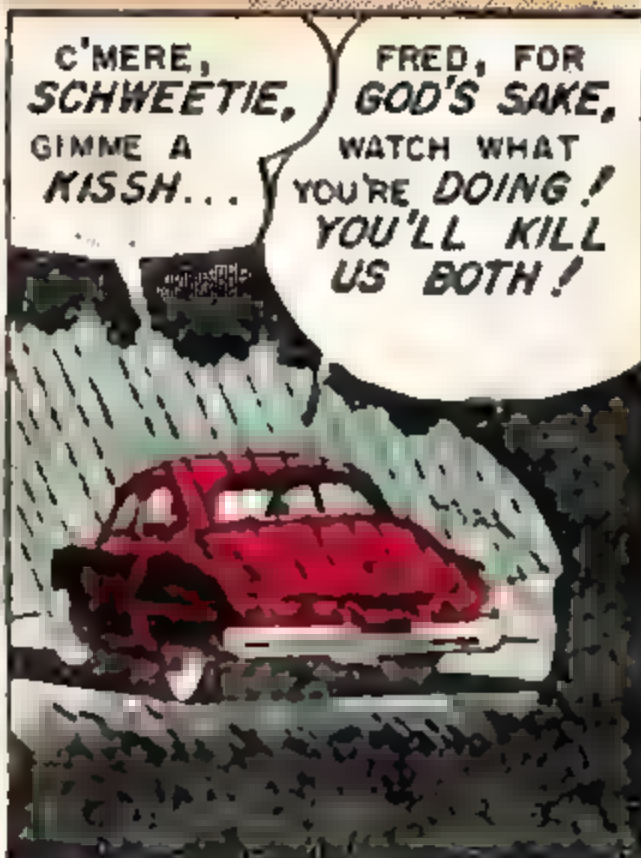




NO, FRED, FRIEDA WON'T EVER LET YOU FORGET THAT HORROR-FILLED NIGHT OF FIVE YEARS AGO...

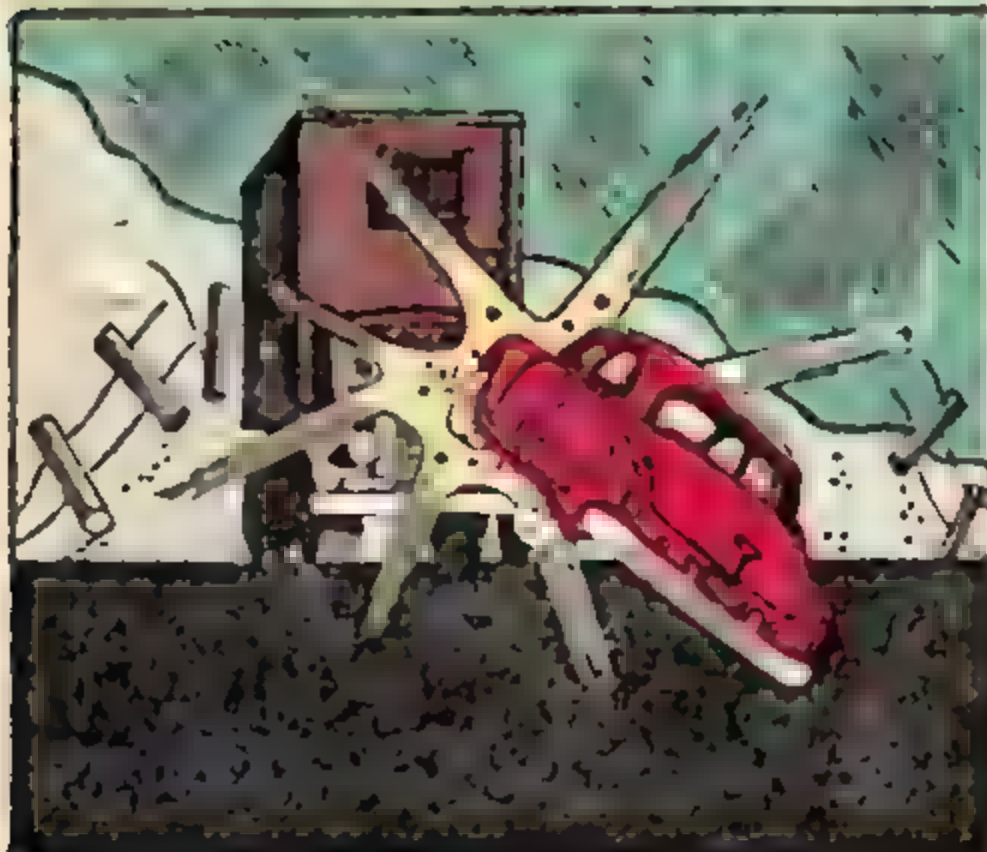
YOU NEVER WERE MUCH OF A DRINKER AND TWO MARTINIS HAD YOU FEELING LIKE A MILLION THAT NIGHT, DIDN'T THEY, FRED...

BUT FRIEDA'S WARNING CAME TOO LATE. AN INSTANT LATER TWO BRIGHT LIGHTS GLARED INTO YOUR EYES AND THE SOUND OF SQUEALING BRAKES ECHOED IN YOUR EARS, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE!



THE NEXT THING YOU HEARD WAS A CRASH... A LOUD SICKENING TERRIFYING CRASH...

AND THEN EVERYTHING WENT BLACK... YOU REGAINED CONCIIOUSNESS THREE DAYS LATER...



IT WASN'T UNTIL YOU WERE STRONGER THAT THE DOCTORS TOLD YOU THE TRUTH ABOUT FRIEDA.

YOUR WIFE IS PARALYZED FROM THE HIPS DOWN. HOWEVER, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE PARALYSIS WAS CAUSED BY SHOCK AND WILL BE AN OFF

PARALYZED
SHE'S
PARALYZED



YES, THAT WAS FIVE YEARS AGO.. BUT THE PARALYSIS REMAINED YOU TRIED DOCTOR AFTER DOCTOR, TREATMENT AFTER TREATMENT



REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE STRONGER YOU WENT TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE AND HE TOLD YOU THE TRUTH

FRED DID
THIS TO
ME, FRED

I KNOW, DARLING, I KNOW / BUT I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU I SWEAR IT / I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN



FINALLY, SHE FOUND A DOCTOR WHO PLEASED HER, RALPH F. VERICK TODAY, AS EVERY DAY, AS YOU START FOR THE OFFICE, DR VERICK IS PAYING A CALL

GOODNIGHT, HANSON FRIEDA BUT THE BAD DOCTOR HAVE A GOOD NIGHT? IF YOU'VE A MINUTE, I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU



IT'S ABOUT ALL THESE MEDICINES. DOC, THIS STUFF IS COSTING A FORTUNE! I CAN'T AFFORD

YOU'LL HAVE TO AFFORD IT, HANSON! AFTER ALL, IT'S YOUR FAULT THAT

EVEN THE DOCTOR WON'T LET YOU FORGET, FRED THERE'S NO ESCAPE YOU'RE TIED TO A LIFETIME OF WORK AND MORE WORK TO PAY FOR FRIEDA'S INJURIES

HEY, FRED, HOW ABOUT A LITTLE POKER TONIGHT? THE BOYS HAVE A GAME ALL SET!

THANKS, HARRY, I CAN'T I'M WORKING OVERTIME .. NEED THE MONEY

YOU'VE WORKED OVERTIME EVERY NIGHT FOR YEARS YOU HAVE TO, YOU NEED MONEY

FRED JUST CAN'T KEEP UP THIS PACE!

POOR BUY I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM! WIFE'S AN INVALID.. COSTS HIM A MINT!



THE DOCTOR HAS TOLD YOU NOT TO WORK THESE LONG HOURS; HASN'T HE, FRED? BUT YOU CAN'T STOP.

SO TIRED... WISH I COULD SLEEP BUT I CAN'T...



YOUR EYES ARE GLASSY... YOUR HEAD'S POUNDING... YOUR CHEST FEELS LIKE IT'S GOING TO EXPLODE. YOU CAN'T BREATHE.



YES, FRED, THERE'S A STINGING PAIN IN YOUR CHEST... RELIEF COMES ONLY WHEN YOU FINALLY COLLAPSE AND CRUMPLE TO THE FLOOR.



IT'S THE CLEANER WHO FOUND YOU AND SUMMONS A DOCTOR.

HE SAYS YOU'RE 41 YEARS OLD AND YOU'VE GOT THE HEART OF A MAN.

BUT YOU'RE KILLING YOURSELF.



IS MY HEART'S BAD?

DAD? EITHER YOU START LEADING A NORMAL LIFE OR YOU'LL DIE WITHIN SIX MONTHS!



YOU'VE GOT TO STOP... DON'T APPEAR TO CARE... WHAT WILL FRED'S REACTION BE TO THIS NEWS...?

YOU'RE LYING. YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO TAKE CARE OF ME ANYMORE! YOU MADE ME A CRIPPLE AND NOW YOU WANT TO DESERT.

NO, FRED, I'M NOT LYING. THAT'S THE TRUTH.



SHE REMINDS THAT YOU'RE STAMMED BY HER VERICK, HER DOCTOR.

I DON'T KNOW WHO THE OTHER DOCTOR WAS, HANSON. BUT HE WAS WRONG! THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH YOUR HEART! YOU WERE JUST

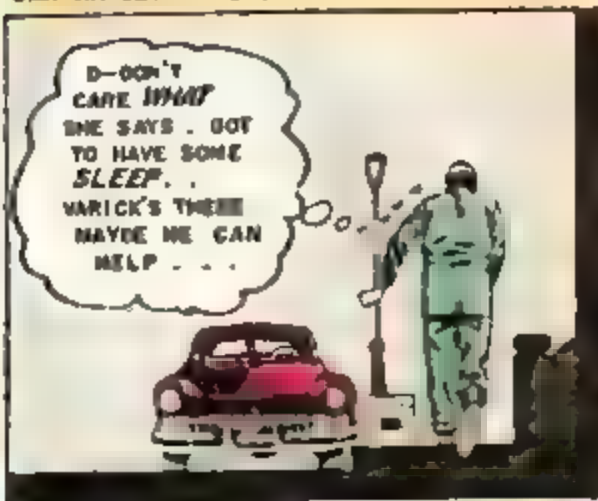
I TOLD YOU... JUST LAST



AND SO YOU GO BACK TO THE OLD ROUTINE
OF WORK



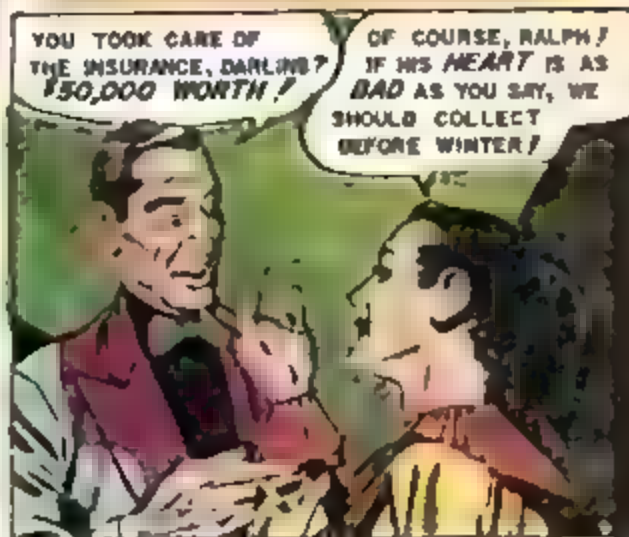
IT'S THREE WEEKS LATER NOW AND ALTHOUGH
IT'S ONLY MID-AFTERNOON, YOU LEAVE THE LAB
AND GO HOME... YOU'RE TIRED... SO TIRED YOU
CAN HARDLY MOVE.



YOU ENTER THE HOUSE AND CLIMB UP THE STAIRS.
BUT THEN YOU STOP, YOU MUST BE GOING CRAZY
OR SEEING THINGS... IT CAN'T BE... BUT IT IS!



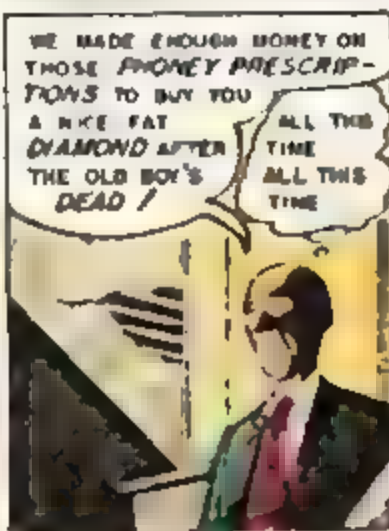
YOU STAND THERE, TOO SHOCKED, TOO
ANGERED TO MOVE



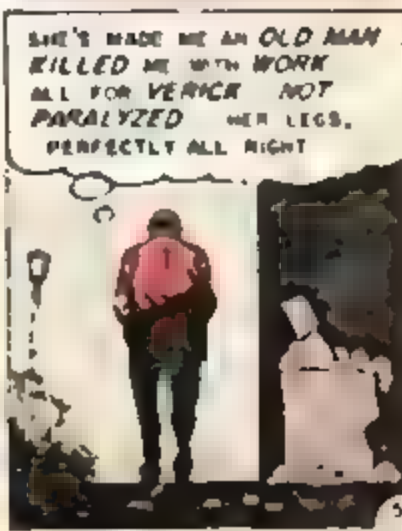
IT'S BAD, ALL
RIGHT! IT'S A
WONDER HE
CAN EVEN WALK.
LET ALONE
WORK!

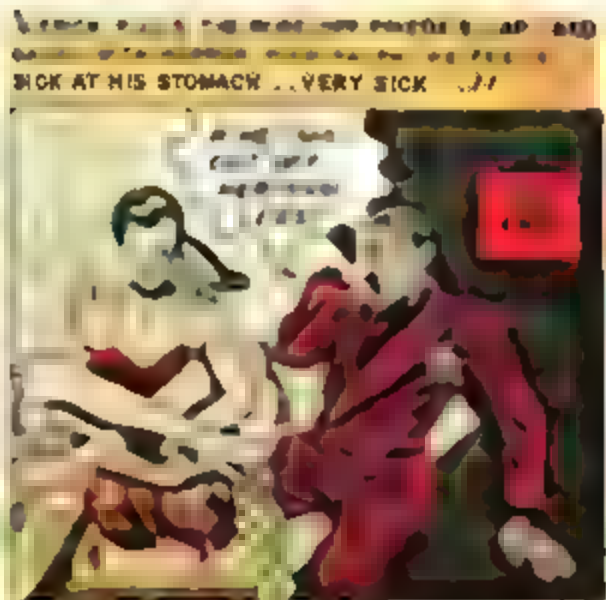
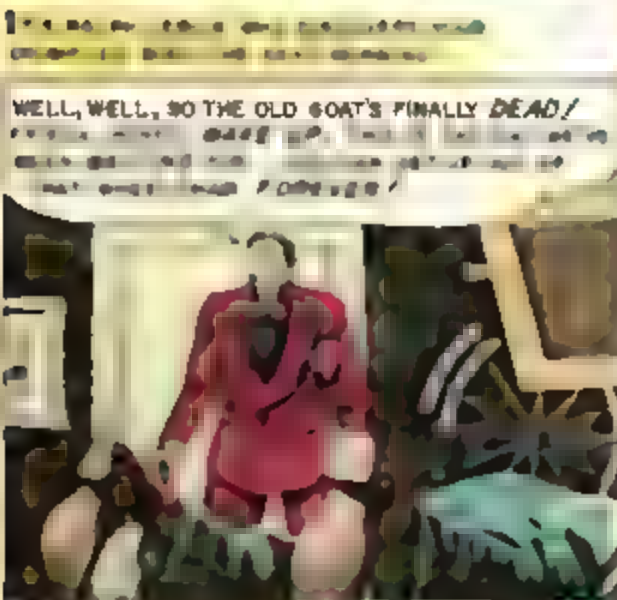
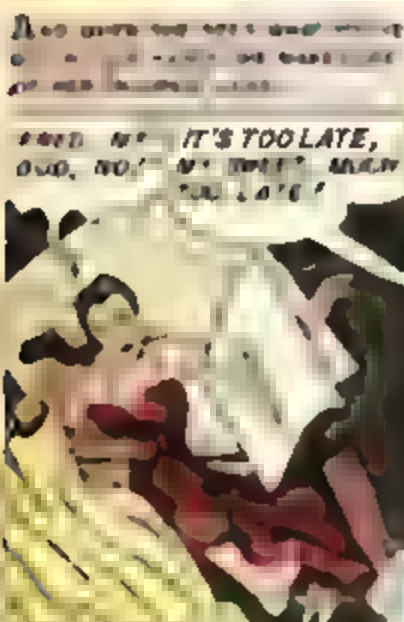
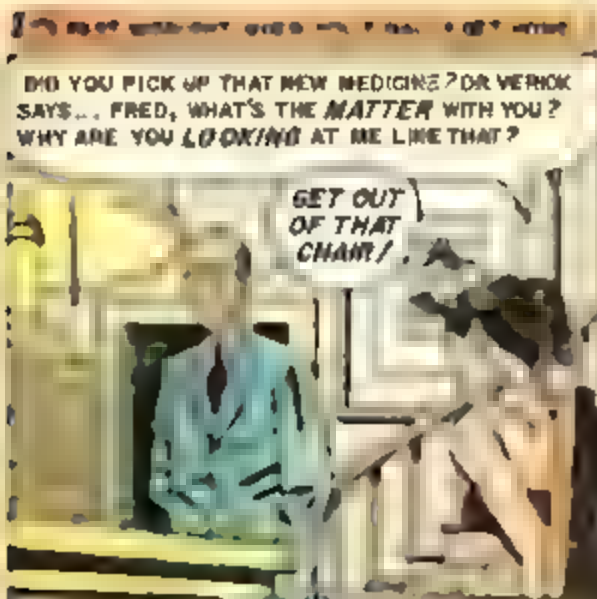


YOU'VE HEARD ENOUGH AND YOU
TURN AND WALK QUIETLY DOWN
THE STAIRS



YOU STUMBLE OUT ONTO THE
STREET AND START WALKING
WALKING WALKING





I'M DYING NOW I'M OLD AND I'M TIRED I'LL BE GLAD
WHEN IT'S OVER AND I'M DEAD! I DON'T WANT TO LIVE
ANymore I'M SICK OF BEING

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

AMOS, D-DON'T!
L-LET ME GO!
YOU'RE CRAZY!

YOU RUINED EVERYTHING! MY BROTHER
AND I WERE HAPPY UNTIL YOU CAME TO
TOWN BUT NOW YOU'RE GOING TO PAY
FOR IT! I'M GOING TO CHOP YOU INTO
LITTLE PIECES, ELLEN! I'M GOING
TO KILL YOU!!



I'VE LIVED IN THIS CABIN FOR THIRTY YEARS
THIRTY YEARS OF SECRECY THIRTY YEARS OF
FEAR AND INSULTS AND JES

HEY, WATCH OUT,
FELLAS! THERE'S
THAT CRAZY
HERMIT!

YEAH, HE'S BATTY, ALL
RIGHT! MY OLD MAN SAYS
HE OUSHTA BE
ARRESTED!



YES, THAT'S ME, "THE CRAZY HERMIT" BUT MY
TIME IS QUICKLY RUNNING OUT AND BEFORE IT'S TOO
LATE, I WANT TO TELL MY STORY

YOU THERE, BOY!
GO INTO TOWN AND
FETCH THE
DOCTOR!

WHO,
M-ME?

YE BETTER DO
WHAT HE WANTS,
MKE IF YA DON'T
HE MIGHT HEX YA!



THE BOY RAN DOWN THE ROAD TOWARD TOWN AND NOW I'M WAITING...WAITING...

HE-HE'S GOT TO COME GOT TO! I CAN'T DIE WITH THIS ON MY CONSCIENCE!



JUST AS I'M READY TO GIVE UP IN DESPAIR, I HEAR A KNOCK ON MY CABIN DOOR

YES, SIR. I UNDERSTAND YOU SENT FOR ME NOTHING SERIOUS, I HOPE

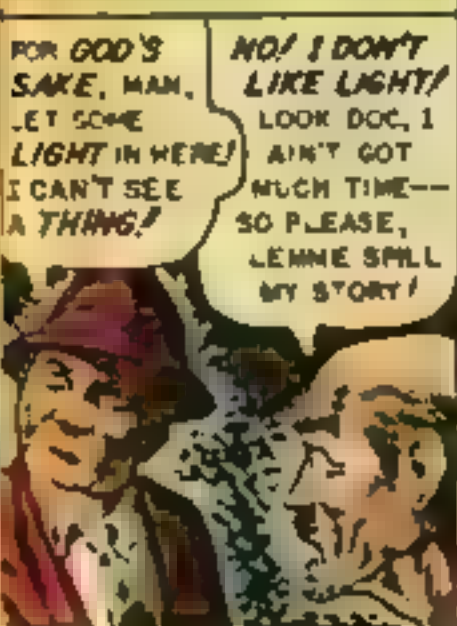
IT AIN'T DOCTORIN' I WANT, MISTER... I JEST WANT SOMEBODY TO LISTEN TO ME.



HE LOOKS AT ME STRANGELY BUT COMES INSIDE THE CABIN AND SITS DOWN

FOR GOD'S SAKE, MAN, LET SOME LIGHT IN HERE! I CAN'T SEE A THING!

NO! I DON'T LIKE LIGHT! LOOK DOC, I AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME--SO PLEASE, LEMME SPILL MY STORY!



IT BEGAN THIRTY-ONE YEARS AGO IN A SMALL VILLAGE 200 MILES FROM HERE I LIVED WITH MY TWIN BROTHER AND TOGETHER WE RAN A BUTCHER SHOP

'MORNIN', BOYS ANY NICE VEAL TODAY?

SURE THING, MRS. GEORGE!

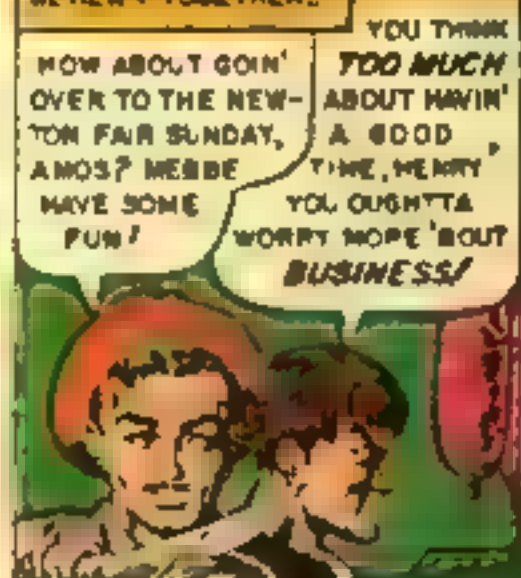
GOT CHOPS AND CUTLETS BOTH!



ME AND AMOS GOT ALONG FINE WE WORKED TOGETHER AND LIVED TOGETHER THERE WASN'T A DAY IN OUR LIVES THAT WE WEREN'T TOGETHER.

YOU THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT HAVIN' A GOOD TIME, HENRY! YOU OUGHTTA WORRY MORE 'BOUT BUSINESS!

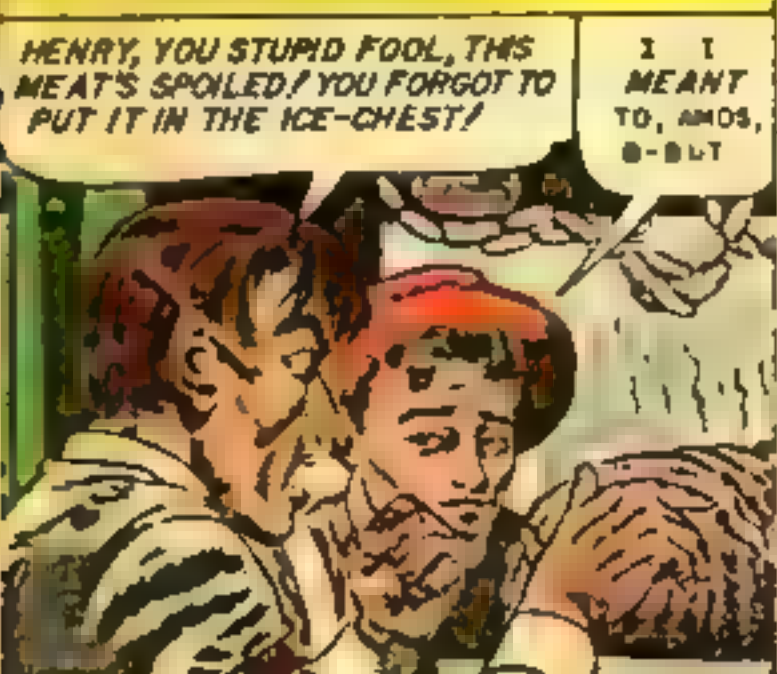
HOW ABOUT GOIN' OVER TO THE NEWTON FAIR SUNDAY, AMOS? WENDE HAVE SOME FUN!



AMOS WAS MORE SERIOUS MINDED THAN ME AND HE HAD A TERRIBLE TEMPER

HENRY, YOU STUPID FOOL, THIS MEAT'S SPOILED! YOU FORGOT TO PUT IT IN THE ICE-CHEST!

I I MEANT TO, AMOS, B-BUT



YOU MEANT TO THIRTY DOLLARS WASTED JEST BECAUSE YOU'RE AN IDIOT!

N-NOW, AMOS, TRY TO CONTROL YOURSELF..



BUT EXCEPT FOR THE TIMES WHEN AMOS MADE A PUSH
WE GOT ALONG PRETTY GOOD UNTIL ONE SATURDAY
MORNING WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENED...



YES, MA'AM, WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

I--I

AND BEFORE AMOS OR ME COULD DO ANYTHING
SHE FELL OVER IN A DEAD FAINT WE CALLED IN
DOC BROWN RIGHT AWAY...



WHAT IS IT,
DOC? WHAT'S
WRONG?

SHE WAS
STAGGERING
LIKE SHE
WAS
DRUNK!

NO, AMOS, **NOT**
DRUNK! JUST
HALF-DEAD
FROM LACK OF
FOOD! THIS POOR
CHILD HADN'T HAD
ANYTHING TO EAT
IN OVER **THREE**
DAYS!

I THINK I FELL IN LOVE WITH HER
RIGHT THEN. SHE LOOKED SO TINY
AND HELPLESS... AMOS WAS
FURIOUS AND AFTER THE DOC
LEFT

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I
DIDN'T GIVE IN TO AMOS. ELLEN
STAYED WITH US AND LITTLE BY
LITTLE SHE GREW STRONGER...

DON'T SAY
NOTHING!
ELLEN
JUST GET
BETTER!

STOP YAKING,
HENRY! WE GOT
WORK TO DO!
HURRY UP!

WHAT ARE YOU BRINGIN'
ABOUT, YOU FOOL? JUST
WHAT ARE WE GONNA
DO ABOUT HER.. SHE
CAIN'T STAY HERE!

SHE'LL
HAVE
TO STAY
HERE! WE
CAN'T
PUT HER
OUT IN THE
COLD!

HERE YOU BE,
ELLEN YER DINN-
NER. CHICKEN
AND ALL THE
TRIMMINES!

HENRY YOU'RE
SO GOOD TO
ME THAT I... I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO SAY!



AMOS DIDN'T LIKE ELLEN STAYING WITH US AND
HE NEVER STOPPED YELLING ABOUT IT

WELL, SHE'S HAD ALL THE HELP
SHE'S GONNA GET FROM US/ SHE
AIN'T WAKIN' NO MORE! I'M TELLIN'
HER TO **GET OUT** NEXT WEEK!

NO,
AMOS!
I WON'T
LET YOU!

"ELLEN, DRINK YER MILK"
... "ELLEN, EAT YER DINNER"
WHAT THE **DEVIL'S** THE
MATTER WITH YOU, HENRY?
YER ACTIN' LIKE A **LOVE-
SICK PUPPY!**

AIN'T YOU GOT NO
HEART AT ALL, AMOS?
THE GIRL'S **SICK!**
SHE NEEDS **HELP!**



YOU CAN'T STOP ME, HENRY...AND I'M WARNING YA, DON'T TRY! I OWN HALF OF EVERYTHING...AND IF I DON'T WANT HER, SHE GOES!



FOR A MINUTE I FELT TRAPPED AND DESPERATE. NOW COULD I LET HER GO? AND THEN I FOUND THE ANSWER...I KNEW HOW I COULD KEEP HER...

YOU'RE WRONG, AMOS. THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN DO... IF SHE'S MY WIFE!

WIFE?



IT WAS A CRAZY WILD IDEA... WHAT MADE ME THINK SHE'D MARRY ME? AMOS ALMOST LAUGHED HIMSELF SICK AT THE THOUGHT...

HAHAHAHA...I ALWAYS KNEW YOU WAS A FOOL, HENRY! HAHAHAHA! THAT GIRL AIN'T GONNA MARRY YOU! HAHAHAHA!

MERBIE NOT... BUT I'M TRYIN' ANYHOW!



AMOS WAS WITH ME WHEN I ASKED ELLEN TO BE MY WIFE...

...AND I KNOW I AIN'T GOT MUCH TO OFFER, ELLEN, BUT...BUT I LOVE YOU AND I'D DO ANYTHING FOR YOU.

YOU'RE THE GENTLEST AND KINDEST MAN I'VE EVER KNOWN, HENRY. I'D BE PROUD TO BE YOUR WIFE!



I COULD HARDLY BELIEVE MY EARS! SHE'D MARRY ME! AMOS WAS SO MAD THAT I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO EXPLODE...

YOU CAN'T GO THROUGH WITH THIS! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! UTTERLY IMPOSSIBLE! I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT WHAT YOU DO, HENRY... AND I SAY NO!

THERE AIN'T NO WAY YOU CAN STOP US, AMOS. TRY TO ACCEPT IT!



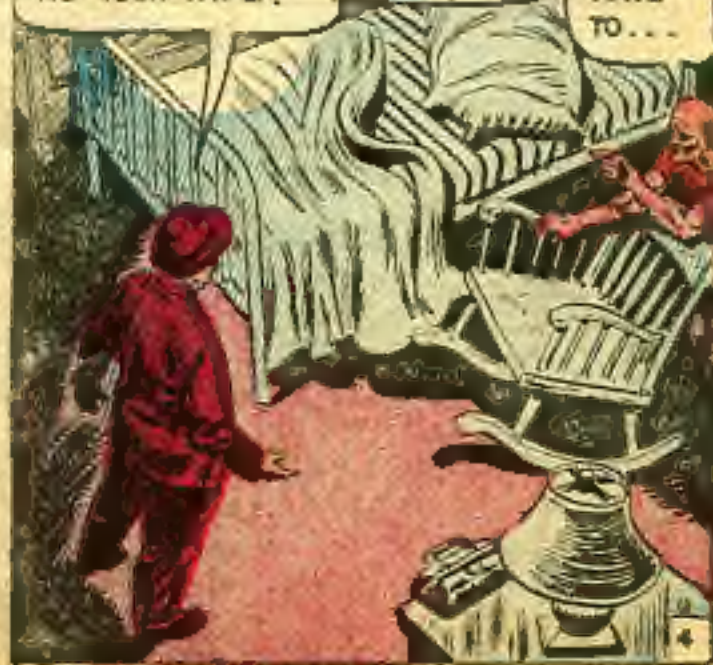
I KNEW WHY AMOS WAS SO UPSET AND I TRIED TO CALM HIM DOWN...

I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, AMOS, WE BEEN TOGETHER ALL OUR LIVES...JEST THE TWO OF US! BUT THINGS WON'T BE MUCH DIFFERENT NOW...EXCEPT ELLEN WILL BE WITH US! WE'LL STILL BE WORKING AND LIVING TOGETHER!



GO ON, MAN! WHAT HAPPENED? DID AMOS FINALLY ACCEPT ELLEN AS YOUR WIFE?

NO, HE DIDN'T HAVE TO...



WE PLANNED TO BE MARRIED IN A MONTH AND WHEN AMOS SAID NOTHING MORE I THOUGHT HE'D GIVEN UP THE FIGHT.

SHE'S A BEAUTY, AIN'T SHE, AMOS? I'M A LUCKY MAN!

YEAH, SURE... SURE...

BUT I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT AMOS NEVER GAVE UP... ON THE NIGHT BEFORE THE WEDDING.

C'MON, HENRY BOY, WAKE UP! WE GOT WORK TO DO TONIGHT!

WHAT? (YAWN) HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING, AMOS? IT'S THE MIDDLE OF...

WHEN I TRIED TO MOVE I COULDN'T... MY HANDS WERE TIED BEHIND MY BACK...

WHAT IN GOD'S NAME ARE YOU UP TO, AMOS? UNTIE MY HANDS AND...

NOW, TAKE IT EASY, BROTHER... I'M GONNA SAVE YOU FROM MAKING A BIG MISTAKE!

HE PULLED ME DOWN THE HALL AND INTO ELLEN'S ROOM... SUDDENLY, I BEGAN TO FEEL A SICKENING TERROR CREEP INTO THE PIT OF MY STOMACH...

H-HENRY, WH...

AMOS, YOU'VE LOST YER MIND! I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING, BUT...

GIT UP, ELLEN, I'VE GOT A PRESENT FOR YOU!

HE FORCED US OUT THE BACK DOOR AND INTO THE REAR ENTRANCE TO THE SHOP...

I'M WARNING YOU, AMOS, IF YOU DO ANYTHING TO HARM ELLEN... I'LL KILL YOU! TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF HER!

AMOS, PLEASE...

I WAS HELPLESS... UNABLE TO STOP HIM AS HE PICKED UP A MEAT CLEAVER AND STARTED TOWARD ELLEN...

AMOS, D-DON'T! L-LET ME GO! YOU'RE CRAZY!

YOU RUINED EVERYTHING! HENRY AND I WERE HAPPY UNTIL YOU CAME HERE! I'M GOING TO KILL YOU, ELLEN!

IT WAS LIKE A HIDEOUS NIGHTMARE... I STOOD THERE, FROZEN WITH HORROR AS AMOS MADE HIS THREAT GOOD...

AMOS... MY GOD... NO.. NO!

A'EEEEEE!

THE CLEAVER ROSE AND FELL AGAIN AND AGAIN...

SHE'S DEAD, HENRY...
DEAD! SHE WON'T BOTHER
US ANYMORE!

ONLY AFTER SHE WAS A BLOODY, BEATEN CORPSE
DID AMOS UNTIE ME...

ELLEN... ELLEN... (SOB)
M-MY SWEET LITTLE ELLEN...

I BURIED HER BEHIND THE
HOUSE...

I'M GOING TO
KILL YOU FOR
THIS, AMOS...
SOMEDAY
WHEN YOU'RE
LEAST EXPECT-
ING IT, I'M
GOING TO
KILL YOU!

YOU'RE JEST
BITTER NOW,
YOU'LL GET
OVER IT! YOU
DON'T DARE
KILL ME... YOU
CAN'T GET
ALONG WITHOUT
ME, BROTHER...
AN' DON'T YOU
FORGET IT!

THOSE WERE THE LAST WORDS I
EVER SPOKE TO AMOS... FROM
THAT DAY ON I ACTED AS THOUGH
HE DIDN'T EXIST...

FER FETE SAKE, HOW LONG
ARE YOU GONNA KEEP THIS UP?
TALK TO ME!

BUT IN THE BACK OF MY MIND
THERE WAS ALWAYS ONE THOUGHT...
KILL HIM... KILL HIM... KILL HIM...

I'D LIKE TO DO TO HIM WHAT
HE'S DOING TO THAT CHICKEN...
JEST ONE QUICK BLOW...

AND FINALLY ONE NIGHT I COULDN'T STAND IT ANY
LONGER...

THIS IS GONNA BE
FER ELLEN,
AMOS...

M-HENRY, WHAT A-ARE YOU...
HENRY... NO!

FER ELLEN...FER
ELLEN...

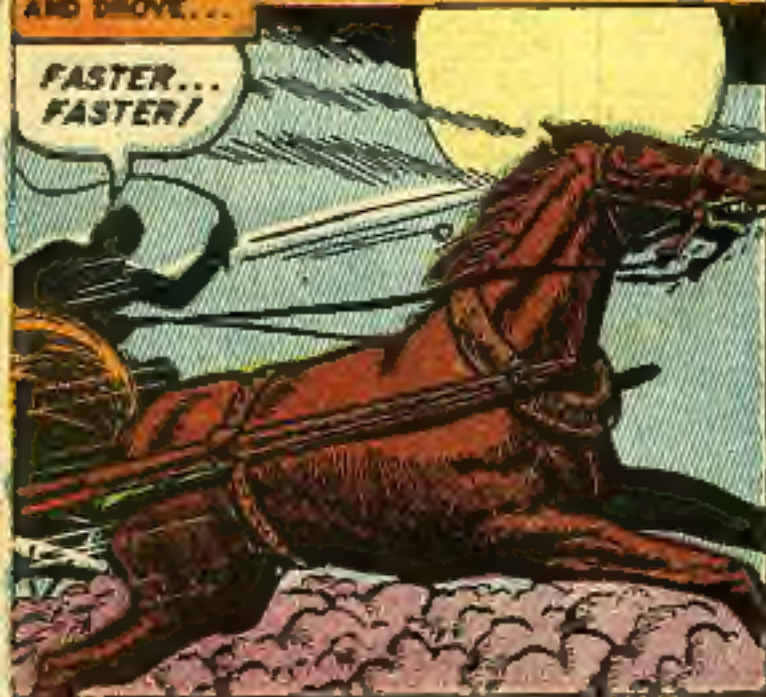
HENRY...
LENNIE GO...
S-STOP, I'M
CHOKING.....



H-HENRY.....
AEGHHHHHHHHHHH



**FASTER...
FASTER!**



I STOPPED WHEN
I GOT HERE. I TOOK
THIS CABIN AND I'VE
BEEN HERE EVER
SINCE.

BUT THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I DON'T UNDERSTAND ... WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL THE **POLICE** WHEN AMOS KILLED ELLEN? AND WHY HAVE YOU LIVED LIKE A **HERMIT**? YOU HAVEN'T BEEN OUT OF THIS CABIN IN **THIRTY YEARS!**



IF I'D CALLED IN THE POLICE, I'D HAVE SUFFERED, TOO! I WAS TRAPPED! I DIDN'T DARE LEAVE THIS CABIN... IF I HAD, EVERYONE WOULD HAVE KNOWN THE TRUTH!



WHAT TRUTH? WHAT
IN GOD'S NAME ARE
YOU... OH, NO...
(GAG)... NO!!

YES, NOW YOU CAN SEE
WHY I WAS TRAPPED...
AMOS AND I WERE
SIAMESE TWINS!

